USER BEHAVIOUR OF DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT IN SELECTED ENGINEERING COLLEGES OF KANCHIPURAM DISTRICT – A STUDY

SYNOPSIS

SYNOPSIS SUBMITTEDTO BHARATHIAR UNIVERSITY IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF

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INTRODUCTION

The development of information communication technology leads libraries to become digitized. Traditional libraries are most wanted by our people in past decades. But storage of print materials and maintenance were another problem. These issues pushed institutions to go with digital resources. E-resources, a new format of materials are adopted in libraries for maintaining their resources to overcome the problems on using print books such as storage and cost. There were already a number of studies conducted to know the student's and faculty members attitudes on e-resources and results in awareness on e-resources was very less to users. Only few studies said that the libraries are still need to understand the actual usability of e-resources. It denotes there must be a user-centered approach to improve e-resources and their use and adoption in academic libraries. Digital materials can access from out of library area, if physical library is not open and it is easy to maintain and save space.

For the past decades many researchers have done their research on electronic resources and how people feel about the digital and print resources of library. Those researches explain many things about the behavior, preferences and expectations of the users; of course sometimes there may be not a clear decision on findings. Using these findings library professionals able to use the information and the inferences. Sometimes it may be difficult to get a conclusion out of plenty of studies somewhat contradictory and which one is good and real findings. Here the goal of the study was conducted to better understand and find out the challenges faced by the students and staffs by adopting technology, their library facilities, especially in engineering colleges and the librarians can use to make important decisions about the development of collection, services and product design.

DIGITAL LIBRARIES AND ITS SERVICES

Digital library is which having all the documents in digital format, it started to dominate current generation. It can be used in many terms like electronic library, virtual library, gateway library, library of the future, library without walls etc... Digital library as an organized collection

of all form of information sources in digital format which can be access, retrieve and select, create, organize, maintain and share. Its main objective is on document collection and digitization, it implies the reality that digital libraries are more chance of digital materials by retaining several qualities like user community, focus on collections, long-term availability, possibility of selecting, organizing, preserving and sharing resources of traditional libraries.

One would agree that serving its users is the main aim of a digital library. Digital libraries are used in many ways and to support a mass of user who need information working in different disciplines such as research, academic, business. Further there are many reasons to develop digital library. When a digital library is designed the starting point proposed usage to the end user, identified some reasons like to develop users access, to encourage the ideas for research, to encourage productivity, to provide higher capacity to maintain the information, to preserve the collections, to develop e-learning, to save time of the users by offering constant access, time flexibility, to develop online research, to provide good service to the users, to make users access simultaneously. The digital library services is a collection of computing, storage, machinery worked together to provide information which was collected, stored with the help of software need to recollect, imitate and extend the services to user in the digital form.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Development of Information communication technology is always dominated in library and information science field more than other disciplines. Libraries were always embrace by adopting new technologies. Though all type of libraries ready to accept digital library but many academic institutions doesn't have digitized materials. Providing digital resources to all staffs and students is because to connect the knowledge and digital services between developed and developing countries, which leads to the development in the resource sharing. Implementing digital library is a big investment also, it makes institutions to think on implementing digital library. As like earlier developments of ict digital library is also a major development in educational institutions like engineering colleges.

In this regard, the present study may help to know that the all engineering colleges in Kanchipuram district having digital library, how the users of library i.e. students, staffs, research

scholars access the digital library collection, how they assess the resources, does the facilities available in their library are good and how the users assess the services provided by their library. Hence, the research problem is chosen and formulated as **"User behavior of Digital Environment In Selected Engineering Colleges of Kanchipuram District, Tamilnadu: A Study".**

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

There is more impact of information communication technology in all fields and the libraries is not exceptional to that. Though libraries play vital role in academic institutions, many was not interested in investing more amount in libraries. In this regard, library professionals may face more challenges to make the institutions by implement digital libraries. Of course, there is no more awareness about digital sources among engineering college libraries in Kanchipuram district, some institutions implemented digital library. Following this thing, this study aims at finding the user satisfaction, expectation and behavior on using digital resources among engineering colleges in Kanchipuram district.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The present research has tried to analyze the problems of libraries facing while access by engineering college user, students, staffs, research scholars. The digital resources are very much useful to above said users and in all disciplines. The study covers a range of e-resources including e-books, e-journals, magazines, back volumes, OPAC, institutional repositories. The facilities like Internet Connectivity, Wifi connectivity, systems, separate place for reading magazines, dailies and reference and all. And the study extend the engineering databases like JSTOR, IEEE, Springer, Science direct etc. It extends the services provided by library staff and the resources available in the digital and traditional library, the reprographic facilities and all.

OBJECTIVES

1. To know the information seeking behavior and the needs of the engineering college users' in Kanchipuram district.
2. To understand the user behavior on using digital resources among engineering college students of Kanchipuram district.

3. To know the satisfaction level of engineering discipline users' on their resources available in the library.
4. To know the facilities of the engineering college library in Kanchipuram district are fulfilled the users' expectations.
5. To find out does how many engineering colleges of Kanchipuram district having digital library facility.
6. To know the digital resources available in their engineering college library website are relevant to their domain.
7. To understand the expectation of the users' and how they spent time on searching their information need.
8. To know the purpose of using digital resources who were studying in engineering colleges of Kanchipuram district.
9. To know the assistance getting from their library staff is fulfilled the users' information needs in the engineering colleges.
10. To know the users' preference on sources available in their engineering college digital library of Kanchipuram district.
11. To find out how the engineering college users' preferred online databases and how they used it in Kanchipuram district.
12. To know that the engineering colleges students having awareness on digital resources.
13. To offer suggestion to the engineering institutions what are changes have to done for the development of their library facilities, resources, working style and all.

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

1. There is no significant relation between surveyed respondents educational qualification and their information seeking behavior.
2. There is significant relation between the surveyed respondents discipline and their purpose for visiting library in the engineering college libraries.
3. There is no significant difference between the surveyed respondent's educational qualification and their satisfaction level with library collections.
4. There is no difference between surveyed respondents in terms of the extent of period of awareness over digital resources as to their professional experience.

5. There is no difference between surveyed respondents in terms of the extent of period of awareness over digital resources as to their designation.
6. There exists no difference among surveyed respondents in terms of years of experience towards use of digital resources.
7. There is no difference between respondents between different positions towards use of e-resources.
8. There is no significant relationship between age of the respondents and their preferred format of sources in engineering college libraries.
9. There is no significant relation between surveyed respondents disciplines and their interest in searching their information needs and seeking behavior.
10. There is no significant relation between surveyed respondents age and their facilities available and expecting in the engineering college libraries.
11. There is no significant difference between the respondents according to their position towards receiving support and recognition from library staffs in using digital resources.
12. There is no significant difference between the surveyed respondents age and their most used online databases in the engineering colleges.
13. There is no significant difference between the surveyed respondent's domain and their accessing online databases in the engineering colleges.

METHODOLOGY

The study is designed, developed and carried out to find out the user behavior of digital environment in selected engineering colleges of Kanchipuram District, Tamilnadu. Survey method is used to collect the data. Survey is a research technique of investigation by direct observation of a phenomena or collection of information through interview, questionnaire etc.. For this study, a well structured questionnaire is used as a major tool for the data collection. Questionnaire is a systematic compilation of questions regarding the particular research problem and to be answered by the respondents.

POPULATION AND FRAMEWORK OF THE STUDY

Kanchipuram is familiar for silk sarees, which are weaved with silver zaris and silk threads. The town is well known for another reason also, temples someone was constructed by

Ancient Pallava Kingdom and most famous temple in Kanchipuram is Kanchi Kamatchi Amman Temple. And now a decade the town is became most wanted place for engineering colleges. There are more than 50 engineering colleges in Kanchipuram district alone. Students from various states studying in these engineering colleges. So it is clear that Kanchipuram is the most relevant for this study.

PILOT STUDY

A pilot study was conducted among few engineering colleges in Kanchipuram town to know the scenario and to test the data collection tool prior to the study in order to improve the relevance and quality of the study. The study was found to be feasible and hence the research processed with the work.

CONSTRUCTION OF QUESTIONNAIRE

A well structured questionnaire with 30 questions has been prepared to collect the primary data for the present study in consultation with the guide and the subject experts. On the basis of the pilot study, all the questions have been selected as final version to collect primary data.

DATA COLLECTION

The researcher has determined to collect data via online survey tool using a structured online questionnaire and mailing it through prominent e-mail and online discussion forums who are all regular and irregular user of digital libraries and to the email box of the engineering college students. The structure of the questionnaire has been organized by grouping and differentiating the variables and the major factors to be studies based on their objectives. Accordingly, 30 numbers of open and close ended questions were used to collect primary data. The online questionnaire has been designed technology fit into online tool called Google forms. The online questionnaire has been circulated to the email ids getting from the engineering colleges of Kanchipuram district.

SAMPLE RESPONDENTS

There are 51 engineering colleges affiliated by Anna University in Kanchipuram district, the selected colleges offered Engineering courses. Approximately 5000 students were studying engineering including various disciplines. Among them almost, all the respondents were permitted by the online survey tool to further precede the structured questionnaire to give their response. As minimum students are not interested in answering email questionnaires as they indicated that they were not shown interest on digital libraries.

FRAMEWORK OF ANALYSIS

After the completion of the data collection, the SPSS dataset downloaded from survey tool and cleaned the data. After cleaning, the data is used for further analysis. From the data set, the required tables have been prepared. The tabulated data have been analyzed with suitable statistical techniques. Relevant statistical tools have been used to test the Hypothesis. The SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Scientists - version 21) software package have been used for the data manipulation.

STATISTICAL TOOL USED

Since majority of the questions in the survey are captured in dichotomous way, the scope for statistic analysis are very limited. Hence for all the usage and awareness questions, the researchers used cross tabulation to identify the percentage between the independent variables. For the scaling questions ANOVA and Post-hoc test were applied to find out the mean differences in each comparison groups.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

1. The findings of the study are applicable to the students who were studying in engineering colleges of the Kanchipuram district.
2. Time and other constructions have restricted the inclusion of other districts of Tamilnadu.
3. The survey represents opinion of the engineering college students who have responded in the survey they belong to the colleges of Kanchipuram District.
4. The study has been made among the engineering college students of Kanchipuram district in the period of June 2017 and December 2017.

5. The generalization of findings of the study is subject to above conditions.

CHAPTER ORGANIZATION

The thesis has been presented in six chapters.

Chapter 1: Introduction of the study. It includes definition of information, digital libraries and its importance, digital library services provided by engineering college libraries.

Chapter 2: Review of Literature

Chapter 3: Profile of Kanchipuram district

Chapter 4: Research Design includes Statement of the Problem, Significance of the study, Scope, Objectives, Hypothesis, Methodology, Data Collection, Statistical tools used, Limitation of the study.

Chapter 5: Data Analysis and interpretation of the study.

Chapter 6: Major findings, Suggestions and Conclusion and Scope for further research.

CONCLUSION

The most of the Engineering Colleges in Kanchipuram district were having digital library. Almost all the students were interested in using digital libraries. Digital environment develops a good and healthy competition among students. Almost all the users were likely to use physical books, but it gives more convenient in digital materials. Users shows more interest on accessing online databases in engineering colleges of Kanchipuram district. This research deals with the user behavior, their expectations on searching information from various databases, preference of their needs and digital libraries in the engineering colleges of Kanchipuram district.

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